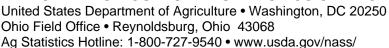


NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE





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NASS – Ohio Field Office Conducts Two Agricultural Surveys – The Agricultural Resource Management Survey and the Conservation Effects Assessment Project

(Reynoldsburg, OH, September 8, 2005) – The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) – Ohio Field Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be conducting the Agricultural Resource Management Study. This study gathers reliable and objective information about U.S. agriculture on the production practices and cost of production for corn. Nearly 8,000 of the Nation's two million farm operators will be asked to participate in this study, so every response is critical. Two hundred corn producers in Ohio will be included in this study.

Ohio farm operators selected to participate in this year's study will be notified by letter, and interviewers will visit them personally to collect their reports at the operator's convenience between October 21 and November 23, 2005. USDA will publish national information on agricultural chemical usage and analyze commodity production costs and returns in a series of reports in 2006.

Another survey, the National Resource Inventory – Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) will help provide a complete picture of environmental and conservation management conditions on farms. Answers from this survey will be used to estimate the potential benefits that have been achieved by farm conservation programs. In Ohio, approximately 350 farm operations will be included in this survey. A local interviewer representing the Ohio Field Office will contact agricultural producers between October 21 and November 23, 2005 to gather information for this survey.